



Fact Sheet:



Alcohol and Other Drugs System of Care Redesign CalTOP

Overview

The California Treatment Outcome Project (CalTOP) is the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs' response to the federal Treatment Outcomes Performance Pilot Studies Enhancement (TOPPS II) grant. Along with other participating states, California has received a no-cost grant extension that will continue the project through September 2002.

CalTOP is piloting a standardized, automated system to track client movement through county alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment systems and determine service outcomes in terms of AOD abuse and other social service needs. The automated outcome monitoring system (OMS) will provide local, state, and federal decisionmakers with key data regarding effectiveness of AOD service system.

Project Components and Process

Implementation of the OMS began with the selection of treatment providers within specific volunteer counties able to create a demographically representative population for the study. Additionally the project has required the development of:

- Electronic linkages between the service providers, counties, and the State;
- A unique client identifier;
- Standard assessment tools;

- An improved client satisfaction measurement tool;
- Standard service element definitions; and
- Data-sharing arrangements with other state agencies that are impacted by the societal cost of AOD abuse.

These activities have been undertaken with full participation of the California AOD prevention and treatment community, and with the goal of ensuring cultural sensitivity. Implementation of CalTOP will result in specific changes in the collection of data and the manner in which these data are utilized.

Collecting CalTOP client information for the OMS consists of several distinct steps. At the initial intake the following process takes place:

- Clients are assigned a unique client identifier (UCI);
- The federal minimum data set is administered;
- Admission is registered by a CalTOP Outcome Data Set consisting of the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) Lite and the California Core Outcome Questions (CCOQ).
- A California adapted version of the American Society of Addiction

Medicine (ASAM) Level of Care Patient Placement Criteria is administered to determine the appropriate level of care.

During the treatment phase, utilization data is collected through electronic submission of transactions which record type, frequency, and duration of services. Upon exit from services, data collection includes a *client satisfaction survey*, California Core Outcome Questions, and the required minimum federal data set. During project data evaluation, exit data will be compared with the intake data to develop an understanding of the changes that occurred in the client's overall life situation during the treatment process.

Research

A subset of the clients who have volunteered to participate in the follow-up portion of the study will also be contacted nine months after entering treatment. At that time an ASI-Lite, California Core Outcome Questions, and a second client satisfaction survey will be administered via telephone survey. This data will again be analyzed to ascertain the client's overall status.

Client status will also be measured using data recorded in other state agency databases. Focusing on the twelve-month post-admission time period, data obtained during the study will be used to ascertain the impact of treatment on the need for other social services.

Goal

Overall functioning of the client will be measured using all data collected via client interviews and cross-system data linkage. Finally, analyses will determine the extent to which specific services result in improved AOD-related outcomes, and the extent to

which these services result in related cost savings.